



Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Parole and Probation Division

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Nevada Joins America in Observing Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Week July 16-22, 2006

(Carson City, NV) ~ During the week of July 16th through the 22nd, 2006, citizens across the United States will join together to recognize the work that probation, parole and community supervision professionals do for our public safety.

Since 1841, the practice of probation and parole has played a vital role in our justice system. These professionals are a critical part of the public safety system.

The probation and parole officer's exhibit care and concern for victims of crime and our communities while at the same time holding offenders accountable. One day they may assist an offender enroll in drug treatment and the next hour they are enforcing the rules of an offender's supervision or sanctioning their misconduct. They may help a single mother find daycare or a job in order for her to abide by the conditions of her supervision. They are problem solvers, crime prevention specialists, motivators, educators, facilitators and often times they are the front-line in keeping our communities safe.

In the United States, the probation, parole and community supervision professionals are to be commended for the bravery they show when making home visits to some of the over 4.9 million adults under community supervision in areas that most people would never enter. The work they do is unnoticed and least known about, yet it is one of the most important jobs in community safety.

Today in Nevada, of the 474 employees of the Division of Parole and Probation, 263 have full peace officer powers and are tasked with the responsibility to supervise 14,000 probationers and 4,000 parolees.

Officers are often exposed to many dangerous and negative aspects of life, including dealing with the trauma offenders cause their victims. They must daily deal with convicted murders, rapists, sex offenders, hardcore gang members, not to mention having to manage offenders with severe mental health and drug addiction issues. They also seize dangerous drugs and weapons, discover evidence of a new crime, and arrest those offenders who violate their parole or probation, especially those who pose a danger to our community.

Nevada Parole and Probation officers are unique in that they are part of the Department of Public Safety, which also includes the Highway Patrol, Division of Emergency Management, Homeland Security, Capitol Police, Fire Marshal and Investigation Divisions. Parole and Probation officers assist the other Divisions in homeland security and fugitive apprehension operations and when responding to state disasters. Parole and Probation officers were part of the Department of Public Safety's task force deployed to Mississippi for law enforcement duties in response to Hurricane Katrina.

(MORE)

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Members of our community are encouraged to join together during Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Week to honor those who work to make our communities a safer place to live. For additional information about Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Week, please contact Officer J.R. Haggerty at Nevada Department of Public Safety Parole and Probation at (702) 486-5177, or visit our website at <http://dps.nv.gov/pandp>.

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